



# News Release

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## DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION CENTER

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## **DODIG AFFIRMS PRUDENT MANAGEMENT DECISIONS AT DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION CENTER**

**NEW CUMBERLAND, PENN** – The Department of Defense, Office of the Inspector General (DoDIG) affirmed “prudent decisions” by the management of the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) and the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Penn. (DDSP) in a report issued Monday, January 26, 2004. The report was the conclusion of an investigation into alleged mismanagement at DDC and DDSP. The report confirmed that all of the allegations were unsubstantiated.

The review by the DoDIG was in response to a congressional inquiry and contained 20 allegations of inappropriate management practices regarding personnel policies and practices, strategic management decisions, and contractor support. The DoDIG investigated eight of the allegations while the Defense Logistics Agency addressed the twelve remaining allegations.

According to the DoDIG report, none of the eight allegations addressed by the DoDIG were substantiated, and none of the allegations addressed by DLA were substantiated. The report comes after an 11-month investigation, which included interviews with officials at DLA, DDC, and DDSP. The DoDIG wrote “the management at DDSP made prudent decisions and took appropriate action in responding to significant unforeseen workload fluctuations and organizational issues.”

Upon receiving the report, DDC Commander, Brig. Gen. Kathleen M. Gainey, United States Army said, “The DDC has been challenged with processing record-setting levels of distribution support due to Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) especially at DDSP. The workforce has put forth tremendous effort to tackle the challenges, and this report confirms that management is making the right decisions to support our Warfighters. It is gratifying to have the backing of the DoDIG.”

Capt. Robert Ritchie, Supply Corps, United States Navy, Commander, DDSP, echoed Brig. Gen Gaaney's comment and added, "The management of DDC and DDSP have partnered with our workforce and I think the results of that relationship were confirmed in the DoDIG report. The work ethic of the people of south central Pennsylvania is phenomenal. Not only is DDSP experiencing increased productivity, sustaining an almost doubled workload, but individual and team productivity is at an all-time high."

DDSP, DDC's eastern strategic distribution platform, is responsible for providing military and commercial repair parts, clothing and textiles, medical supplies, and electronic components to military customers throughout the world. DDSP is the largest distribution facility within DoD.

*Defense Distribution Center, New Cumberland, Penn., is the Defense Logistics Agency's Lead Center for Distribution. DLA provides supply support and technical and logistics services to the military services and to several civilian agencies. Headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va., DLA is the one source for nearly every consumable item, whether for combat readiness, emergency preparedness or day-to-day operations.*

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